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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
LANSING



STEVEN E. CHESTER  
DIRECTOR

TO: Local Health Departments

FROM: Wm. Elgar Brown, P.E., Chief  
Drinking Water and Environmental Health Section  
Water Bureau

DATE: March 19, 2007

SUBJECT: Announcement of **Drinking Water Wells & Public Health - Local Health Department Training Series**

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Water Bureau (WB), Drinking Water and Environmental Health Section (DWEHS), would like to make you aware of a new training outreach effort that we are providing for local health department (LHD) personnel. The *Drinking Water Wells & Public Health-Local Health Department Training Series* is intended to provide an opportunity for individuals to gain an in-depth understanding of prevention-based public health principals associated with drinking water supply systems. These principals are critical for public health professionals to master in order for them to be able to oversee installation of safe, reliable water systems. Training session topics included in this three-part training series were selected based upon requests from the LHD and DEQ water program administration. Individual training session announcements and agendas will be posted on the DEQ, Well Construction Unit, website. In addition, training session announcements and agendas will be mailed directly to each LHD office.

Training Series Topics

- Session 1.... Founding Public Health Principals for Drinking Water Supply Regulation
- Session 2.... Drinking Water Well Construction and Regulation
- Session 3.... Use of New Technology in Drinking Water Supply Regulatory Programs

Dates and Locations

- Session 1.... May 2, 2007 (Lansing, Constitution Hall); (agenda attached)
- Session 2.... August 2, 2007 (Grayling, Ralph A. McMullan Conference Center)
- Session 3.... November 1, 2007 (multiple locations TBD); (hands-on training)

Presenters will be from the DEQ, WB, DWEHS (Noncommunity, Well Construction, Wellhead Protection, and Contamination Investigation Units), as well as from outside the DEQ. Attendees are encouraged to attend all three of the training sessions to gain a thorough understanding of drinking water program issues. We also encourage staff attendance at selected, individual sessions which relate to their areas of responsibility at your agency. Session 1 is appropriate for all LHD staff. Session 2 is recommended for staff assigned to the water supply program. Session 3 is recommended for Information Technology (IT) staff and LHD personnel working in the water supply program.

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We will be seeking LHD input before finalizing the agenda for Session 2. We want to integrate your field experiences and program protocols into the Permits and Sanitary Survey component of Session 2, to allow others around the state to benefit from your successes.

There is no charge for attendance at any of the Training Series sessions, however, pre-registration is required due to space limitations at some locations. Early registration is recommended. A registration form for Session 1 is included with this correspondence.

If you have questions concerning the training series, pre-registration, or participation in the planning group for Session 2, please contact Mr. James McEwan, DWEHS Training Coordinator, at 517-241-1413. We look forward to working together with you on this training effort. See you at Session One.

Attachment

cc: MALEHA  
MEHA & Affiliates  
Unit Chiefs, DWEHS, DEQ  
Mr. James McEwan, DEQ

**DRINKING WATER WELLS & PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**Local Health Department Training Series – Session 1**

**Founding Public Health Principals for Drinking Water Supply Regulation**

**May 2, 2007**

**8:30am – 4:15pm**

**Department of Environmental Quality  
525 West Allegan, Constitution Hall, 2 North  
Lansing, Michigan**

8:30 Welcome

8:35 Objectives for the LHD Training Series

8:45 Public Health Concepts

- Construction vs. reliance on water sampling
- Components of a safe water system
- Water sample variability
- Understanding bacteriological sampling histories

9:30 Introduction to Pathogens & Indicator Organisms

- Traditional & emerging waterborne pathogens
- Characteristics of indicator organisms
- Viruses – public health implications

10:30 Break

10:45 Case Histories & Studies

- Waterborne disease outbreaks in Michigan and Great Lakes region
- U.S. waterborne disease reporting
- Identifying imminent threats to drinking water quality

11:30 Lunch (on your own)

1:00 Sampling of New Wells

- Importance of initial sampling new wells
- Statistics on new well sampling
- Minimum Program Requirements
- Responsibilities for sampling

1:30 Sampling Methods and Interpreting Bacteriological Test Results

- Coliform positive vs E. Coli positive
- Sample collection strategies
- Sample collection techniques
- Sending the right public health message

2:00 Break

2:15 Chemical Contaminants in Groundwater

- Understanding drinking water standards
- EPA-driven rules development
- Monitoring strategies

2:45 Groundwater Contamination Investigation

- Inorganic and organic compounds in groundwater
- Naturally-occurring chemical constituents
- LHD role in investigations

3:00 Risk Assessment

- Principles of risk assessment
- Applying risk assessment tools
- Public health advisories

3:50 Concluding Comments

- Questions from audience (on any presentation)
- Session evaluation

4:15 Adjourn

# Drinking Water Wells & Public Health Local Health Department Training Series



## Reservation Form

The following individuals request inclusion in the DEQ Training Programs indicated below:

<u>Training Program Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

<u>Name of Attendee:</u>	<u>Agency Name:</u>	<u>Phone:</u>	<u>e-mail:</u>
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Want Continuing Education Credits (CECs)?      Yes \_\_\_\_\_      No \_\_\_\_\_

Attended these sessions: \_\_\_\_\_

Attendance sheets are maintained.

# CECs Issued: \_\_\_\_\_

- DEQ Use Only -

Please complete and then submit a separate reservation form for each attendee. It is the attendee's responsibility to provide the reservation form to DEQ if he/she wishes to attend. Reservations for training sessions are on a "form first-received" basis.

FAX to:

James McEwan, Training Coordinator  
DEQ - DW & EH Section  
517-241-1328

If you have questions concerning DEQ training sessions, feel free to contact me.  
517-241-1413 or [mcewanj@michigan.gov](mailto:mcewanj@michigan.gov)